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Goodwill Group Leaves Today

Tour to Sign 'Crumpeteers'

It may never put the Mickey Mouse Club out of business, but organizers of the Chamber of Commerce's goodwill tour of Washington and Oregon plan to enroll chamber officials in the United States as "Crumpeteers."

The 32-member party leaves Victoria for Seattle at 8 a.m. today. It is the largest group ever to represent Victoria Chamber of Commerce on a goodwill tour.

"We're going to invest some local Chamber of Commerce officials in Oregon and Washington with the Loyal and Ancient Order of Crumpeteers," Sam Lane, chairman of the chamber's tourist trade group, said last night.

"We'll give them scrolls which will allow them to visit us behind the crumpet curtain."

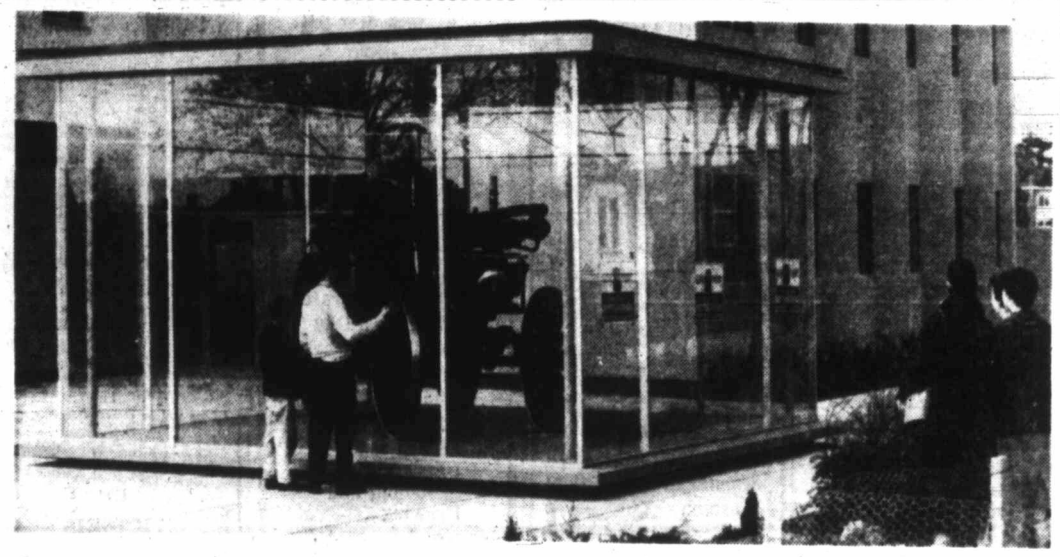
The tour will visit Seattle and Olympia in Washington, and Salem, Grant's Pass, Medford, Klamath Falls, Crater Lake, Bend, Oregon City and Portland in Oregon, ending back in Victoria Saturday.

School Children Back Tomorrow

It's back to school tomorrow for Greater Victoria's 20,000 school children and 725 teachers after the 10-day Easter vacation.

The term runs to June 25. For high school students, in particular, the weeks ahead mean intensive study and review of past work, prior to promotions.

Span Traffic Ban To Last a Week



Place of Honor for Old Fire Engine

Rescued from the obscurity of a dusty, dark corner in the city market building, this 1898 steam-powered pumper has an honored position at the new city firehall, Camosun and Yates, which will be officially opened April 17. The new building will be in use by the city fire department from April 13, but the equipment will form a parade from the old firehall to the new for the opening ceremonies.—(William Boucher photo)

VMD Given $10,000 Repair Job

Johnson Street bridge, shaken Friday when it was struck by a deep sea tug under tow, will be closed to motor vehicle traffic until at least a week tomorrow.

The $10,000 job of replacing a 40-foot main girder nearly broken off when the hulk of the Salvage King, under tow to the scrap yard, rammed into the unopened bridge, will be started immediately.

Contract for the bridge repair job has been given Victoria Machinery Depot. Ald. Geoffrey Edgelow, chairman of the city's public works committee, said last night.

Question of a transport department inquiry into the accident was still up in the air this weekend.

City officials and spokesmen for Island Tug and Barge, owners of the Salvage King and the Island Comet which was towing the former rescue tug at the time, said they had not been notified of any inquiry.

But company officials said they would conduct an investigation of their own, Monday.

Responsibility for the accident has been laid at the company's door by city officials. Bridge tender Steve Carter said after the accident no signal was given from the Island Comet for the bridge span to be lifted.

Authorities said the bridge span would be kept open for water traffic while the bridge was under repair. All motor and pedestrian traffic is being rerouted to Bay Street and the Point Ellice Bridge.

Police said last night traffic is being handled "quite adequately" by the rerouting though some motorists from the Esquimalt side are missing detour signs and having to turn back.

Trains over the railroad bridge are not affected by the shutdown.

Transport department official Capt. J. C. Barbour, Vancouver, said last night he had not heard of any plans to hold a department inquiry into the bridge accident.

Injured Motorcyclist Comforted

Grimacing with pain, 18-year-old Leonard Morey, 3277 Whittier, is comforted by police constable Gordon Bennett minutes after the young motorcyclist collided with a truck on Government near the roundabout yesterday. He was later treated for a broken kneecap at Royal Jubilee Hospital.—(Colonist photo)

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Ambulance's Close Call

'Deaf' Driver Shakes Police

A motorist busy talking to a passenger almost collided with a hurrying police ambulance at Hillside and Shelbourne when he failed to pull over for the ambulance, police said yesterday.

The ambulance with crew of two police constables was taking an injured motorcyclist to hospital.

"It was too close for comfort," said the ambulance driver, Const. Harry Hoshal.

He said the ambulance was on the way to Royal Jubilee Hospital from an accident at Jones and Government, and when approaching the intersection, it cut around a car that had stopped in the middle of the road.

"It put us right in the path of this oncoming car," the ambulance driver said. "It was within inches of us when the driver cut the car right onto Shelbourne."

"Don't people realize we have the right of way?" asked his partner, Const. Gordon Bennett. "We had the siren wide open."

They were taking Leonard Morey, 18, of 3277 Whittier, Saanich, to hospital after he suffered a broken right knee cap when his motorcycle was in collision with a truck driven by George Cook, 3019 Carol.

Socred Fall

Briggs Keeps Mum

H. Lee Briggs, former manager of the B.C. Power Commission, last night refused to discuss evidence given at the Shrum royal commission, quoting him as predicting last November the fall of Premier Bennett's government "within two weeks."

"I would prefer not to speak on it," he said. "You are dealing with something that may or may not have been said in a private meeting and I would prefer not to discuss it at all."

The evidence was given at the Shrum commission Thursday by T. H. Crosby, former chairman of the power commission. Dr. H. J. McLeod, another member of the power commission at that time, corroborated it.

Fish Bank Fund Hits $100

Donations for Victoria's first "fish bank" totalled more than $100 last night, $150 short of the goal.

Sponsoring Victoria-Saanich Inlet Anglers' Association and the Chinook Club plan to purchase a deep-freeze unit in which catches of fish could be stored for later distribution to the needy through the surplus food stall and other means.

The committee believes many lucky anglers with more fish than they need will deposit the surplus in the bank, expected to hold 500 pounds.

21-Month Hull Job

VMD to Lay Keel For Sub-Killer Sometime in July

Keel-laying for the latest addition to the RCN's sub-hunting fleet is expected to be at Victoria Machinery Depot sometime in July, VMD president Harold Husband said last night.

First steel is expected in June.

The $28,000,000 job of building the modified "repeat Restigouche" class destroyer escort will be shared on a roughly 50-50 basis between the two major shipyards in Victoria.

YARROWS TAKES OVER

VMD will build the hull, probably taking some 21 months, and Yarrows Ltd. will have the completion of ship and outfitting, expected to take another 20 months.

Mr. Husband said with work on the Restigouche class destroyer escort Terra Nova practically completed at VMD, an intensive search was being carried out for more work to occupy technical trades.

Iron workers were the only trade which would not be affected by a drop in employment at the yard at the present moment, he said.

FERRY HULL

For them, fabrication of the hull for a big B.C. government ferry is proceeding on schedule, with the new navy ship coming up this summer.

But after the Terra Nova is commissioned on June 6, said Mr. Husband, prospects "include nothing which would employ all those technical workers."

However, Defence Minister George Pearkes has stressed equitable distribution of work on the new navy vessel between the two yards.

Car Takes Full Flip Driver Uninjured

A driver escaped injury when her small car rolled over while turning in towards Goldstream Coffee Bar, 2892 Trans-Canada Highway, at 6.10 p.m. yesterday.

RCMP said the car, driven by Shirley Ryan, 2678 Millstream Road, apparently rolled on its top, skidded upside down for some distance, then flipped back onto its wheels when it struck a ditch.

Low-Pressure Salesman

Travelling salesman for next week, Ald. Geoffrey Edgelow will try to sell Victoria's deflated centennial balloons in Seattle, Olympia and Portland, at deflated price. Actually he'll travel in better style than this, on Chamber of Commerce goodwill tour. —(Colonist photo)

Repaired Kootenay Off Today

HMCS Kootenay is due to leave Esquimalt harbor at 9.30 a.m. today to resume her interrupted voyage to Halifax.

The new destroyer escort returned to base yesterday after a "small explosion" put one of the ship's two boilers out of action.

Cause of the blast is unknown. But dockyard workers made the repairs in a few hours yesterday. Main reason for returning was to have a thorough inspection of the boiler, which was completed by last night.

Kootenay was built at Burrard Dry Dock shipyards in North Vancouver for the Atlantic fleet and was stationed at Esquimalt during her post-commissioning work-up period.

Jaycees Set Boss Night

Wednesday night, April 15, Victoria Junior Chamber of Commerce members will play host to their employers at the annual Bosses' Night.

Guest speaker at the dinner meeting will be Works Minister W. N. Chant. Mayor Percy Scurrah will represent the city council.

B.C.'s RCMP

Lemieux Takes Command

Assistant Commissioner J. E. Lemieux of Montreal took over command of the province's RCMP at headquarters here yesterday shortly after arriving at Patricia Bay Airport.

He took over the reins of "E" Division in a "hurry-up" trip to free former B.C. boss, Deputy Commissioner C. W. Harvison, to leave today.

"This is known as one of the best postings, and I can see why," Assistant Commissioner Lemieux said. "I like what I've seen."

He will return to the east Wednesday, to complete his transfer. The assistant commissioner said he expects to return here permanently at the end of the month.

His wife and 11-year-old son, Marcel, will come west after the end of the school term at Montreal.

Deputy Commissioner Harvison is to take up his duties as "second in command" at Ottawa headquarters next week.

MRS. H. R. HANSON

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Seen In Passing

Mrs. H. R. Hanson in charge of publicity for Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society, holding "Jeffries Challenge" trophy for novice rock gardeners. (Her husband, **Harold,** is a BCER supervisor and they live at 1905 Mayfair. Her hobby: Gardening) . . . **Carl Spreitz** offering to loan his camera to a friend . . . **Mary Rawnsley** looking as charming as any beauty queen contestant . . . **John Dunbar** chatting to **Jim Walton** . . . **Doug Crosby** comforting a friend . . . **Doug Park** talking about placer mining.

Jaycees Say

Keep Free Camps

Victoria Jaycees are opposed to the provincial government imposing a fee for the use of government campsites, as requested by motel owners throughout the province.

A resolution asking the government to keep use of camsites free of charge has been submitted for consideration at the provincial Junior Chamber of Commerce convention to be held in Nelson June 4.

Ken Robinson, chairman of the Victoria Jaycees' resolution committee, said last night that the sites provide cheap and healthy recreation for thousands of persons.

Other resolutions call for the establishment of kindergartens in elementary schools, and appointment of a special minister of the provincial cabinet to handle the trade and industry portfolio, at present held by Attorney-General Bonner.

The brief supporting kindergartens points out the cost of such a program would be less than other elementary classes, as one teacher could handle two groups each day.

Mr. Robinson said the trade portfolio "is of greater importance than ever before and quite obviously Mr. Bonner is unable to give the necessary time to both and do a proper job."

Coroner To Hold Inquiry

A coroner's inquiry will likely be held into the death Thursday of 22-month-old Alexis Lajeunesse, who died in front of her Jordan River home when run over by a truck driven by her father.

RCMP officials said yesterday the coroner, Dr. E. C. Hart, had yet to see the results of their investigation.

Private funeral services will be held at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow in Sands funeral chapel, Colwood, with Rev. J. H. Bartlett officiating.

Police Wage Hearing Due

Conciliation board hearings are expected to start Friday or Saturday between Esquimalt municipality and the police union seeking a 12-per-cent wage increase for its members.

Appointed to the board were Prof. Charles S. Burchill, 311 Milburn, Colwood, for the union, and Edwin E Pearlman, 2640 Margate, Oak Bay, for the municipality.

The two members of the board have yet to appoint a chairman.

942 Cars Use Sidney Ferry

Washington State Ferries carried 604 Canadian and 338 foreign cars from Sidney to Anacortes during March, and 441 Canadian and 311 foreign cars in the opposite direction, figures released last week by the Sidney customs office disclose.

More Jobs from Now On

Number of jobless persons in Greater Victoria continues to drop steadily, a spokesman for the National Employment Service reported yesterday.

Men registered for jobs now total 3,105, down 88 from a week ago. And the number of women seeking jobs dropped 40 in the same period, to 1,755.

The overall total of 4,860 is 537 below jobless figures a year ago. The spokesman said the seasonal trend means more jobs from now on.